TASER AXON Questions and Answers

1. What is the TASER® AXON™ and what is the objective of this device?

The AXON is a tactical networkable computer that combines advanced audio-video record/capture capabilities with tactical communications, and is designed to be worn by first responders such as law enforcement and corrections officers, soldiers, and private security. The state of the art audio-video earpiece with imager, speaker and microphone integrates into the communications loop between existing radios and the communications headset, recording video of critical incidents from the visual perspective of the officer.

The AXON system is designed to integrate seamlessly into existing radio communications through a standard 3.5 mm headphone connection, providing two way communications in addition to full audio-video recording from a head camera the size and weight of a typical Bluetooth® headset.

2. Why has TASER International develop such an advanced device?

First and foremost, having transparent accountability is of utmost concern to TASER International. When you combine our built-in accountability features of the TASER® X3, TASER® X26, TASERCam or the ADVANCED TASER® M26 electronic control devices you have a win-win combination. We back that claim up in light of the November 2006 IACP report that showed statistical data indicates that 96.2 percent of the time, the recording of the event exonerated the officer of the allegation or complaint. By adding the TASER AXON capability you now can capture 90 percent of law enforcement action that is missed by the in-car camera (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 2/3/04).

TASER International's mission is to improve officer safety, accountability and to "Protect Life." Our mission in 2006 was "to change the world by providing revolutionary life-saving non-lethal defense systems" and "to be the technology and market leader in non-lethal defense systems." We have now expanded that vision "to PROTECT LIFE through safer force options" and "to PROTECT TRUTH through intelligent systems that maximize effective and responsible use of force."

In 2006, TASER introduced the TASER® CAM™ -- currently the most widely used on-officer camera in the United States. The TASER AXON device is a logical progression in our vision to improve officer safety, accountability, and to continue to Protect Life and to now Protect Truth.

3. What are the main functions of the TASER AXON and its primary purposes?

Evidence: Audio-video recording of an incident from the visual perspective of the officer with pre-event capture. "Evidence in Motion" – more accurate digital evidence account than fixed camera only.

GPS: During an event, the AXON device records GPS coordinates as part of the evidence. This allows the agency to track pursuits and also provides a feature to "mark" locations during the pursuit for future review. As an example, with the touch of a button, an officer can "mark" where drugs were thrown out of a car during a pursuit.

Communication: Interconnectivity between audio-video earpiece and the officer's standard two-way radio. By integrating the video imager into the communications earpiece, the AXON provides officer-perspective video without requiring a remote microphone.

Reporting: The AXON system is designed to significantly improve officer efficiency by reducing report documentation workload and increased incident reporting accuracy. The ability for the officer to play back the video using the color screen on the device prior to uploading enhances the officer's recollection of events and provides transparent accountability.

TACOM™ Tactical Networking: The AXON integrates TASER Communications (TACOM), a close-range wireless communications capability designed to integrate command and control of future TASER devices that are TACOM compatible.

4. Why are there multiple recording modes?

There are three recording modes: Video only, audio only, and event (audio & video). The available modes are configurable by the department administrator. For example, in states where audio recording is illegal, the AXON can be preconfigured to record video only regardless of the mode.

These three modes can be selected depending on the circumstances. Video only is the default mode during non-event times. This prevents recording of general conversations when the officer is not involved in an actual event.

The event mode is activated manually by the officer and records both audio and video in addition to increasing the video frame rate for higher quality resolution.

5. What is the privacy function?

The primary objective of the TASER AXON device is to support the officer's actions and at the same time, ensure that the officer is confident that recording functions are not operational during non-event times. One example is the privacy function. This allows the officer to stop all audio and video recording during personal breaks and other times as deemed appropriate by agency policy. The officer will hear a "privacy" voice prompt approximately once every five minutes as a reminder to return to the non-event recording mode when resuming official duties.

6. How do I know that "Big Brother" isn't listening to my personal conversations when I'm on duty but talking to my partner about personal matters during non-event times?

There are two safeguards built into the system to prevent this. First, there is the privacy mode as described above. Second, the TASER AXON is normally configured to operate in the video-only mode during non-event times. No audio is captured until the event button is depressed therefore personal conversations are not captured.

7. What is the playback feature?

The playback feature allows the officer to review the entire event prior to writing the report. This helps ensure accurate documentation of incident reports which is critical to help protect the officer from possible discrepancies between video and written reports resulting from trying to keep an accurate mental recollection of events in a high-stress situation. This is especially important when time has elapsed between the event and the writing of the report. The playback feature will also allow the officer to "mark" various locations on the video for him/her to easy return to specific sections and annotate the video with a Case ID and/or Title for ease of management on EVIDENCE.com.

8. Why would I wear it for a full shift?

If the video recording does not start until the event button is pressed, there is no way to capture the "pre-event" video which shows what led up to the start of the event recording. By running the imager full-time (except when in the privacy mode), the last 30 seconds of video (no audio) prior to pressing the event button can be automatically saved as part of the event. As an example, with a traditional analog in car camera, the recording does not start until the lights or siren are turned on or the officer starts the recording manually. If the officer observed a drug transaction then started a pursuit, the car camera would catch the pursuit in progress, but not the event (crime leading up to the pursuit). With the TASER AXON, when the officers observes a drug transaction and activates the event mode, it is able to capture those events 30 seconds prior to the pursuit and capture the initial transaction. This feature is configurable and can be increased to 180 seconds or three minutes.

9. How much recording time does the TASER AXON capture?

The internal digital storage is 16 GB of flash memory which provides approximately 8 hour and 50 minutes of event video depending on conditions.

10. Is it waterproof?

Yes. The main power module, imager/earpiece, and cradle are all waterproof.

11. Will it stay on during a struggle?

While there are never guaranties that any device will stay on an officer during a struggle, the TASER AXON imager module is designed to stay in place during most activities including running. AXONs have survived several physical encounters and have proven successful with officers running and bicycling.

12. Can the battery be changed?

Yes. The battery is contained in a sealed compartment; however the compartment can be opened and changed if required.

13. How long will the battery last?

Battery life is estimated at 10.5 hours at room temperature. This is enough time to cover a 12-hour shift excluding breaks and other times when the privacy mode would be in use. The battery can be recharged from a fully discharged status in less than five hours.

15. Are there multiple attachment options?

Yes. There are attachments for on-ear / headband, helmet, etc.

16. What is the HeadCam?

The HeadCam contains a wide angle, 100-degree field of view lens and comes standard with a headband similar to the behind the head style of the most popular jogging headphones used with MP3 players today. However, the HeadCam can be mounted through various accessories to helmets, or just about anywhere – giving the officer the power to choose the configuration that maximizes his or her comfort and usability.

17. What is the ComHub?

The ComHub was designed with input from hundreds of leading tactical trainers and operators, and designed for simple, easy operation even under extreme stress. The Com Hub has a standard push to talk button for radio controls, and a single AXON event button, requiring the push of a single button to activate the AXON system to initiate event capture. It connects to the HeadCam, radio, ATC.**18. What is the ATC — AXON™ Tactical Computer?**

The ATC is stored away, in dedicated pockets such as the Blauer™ AXON certified uniforms, on the belt in a holster, or just about anywhere. The 4.3 inch touch screen color display enables playback and analysis of incident video, as well as limitless future applications. It features a Linux Operating System, records events at 30 frames per second (meets IACP guidelines), provides video compression and storage, a 10.5-hour rechargeable battery, with a LCD screen.

19. What TASER devices can be activated with the TASER AXON?

An RF circuit is built into the TASER AXON unit and will be able to activate future compatible TASER® devices, including future generation TASER® XREP™ and TACOM controlled TASER® Shockwave™ devices.

20. When will it be available?

Units began shipment in June, 2010 and are available for immediate delivery.

EVIDENCE.COM Questions and Answers

1. What is EVIDENCE.com?

EVIDENCE.COM is a virtual evidence warehouse, offering digital storage in a highly secure, easily accessible environment. From EVIDENCE.COM™, both agencies and legal professionals may quickly access key evidence data without the difficult and sometimes-impossible inventory searches common to yesterday's storage methods.

EVIDENCE.COM is a full featured system designed around easy-to-use dashboards that turn geospatial multi-media evidence, such as GPS tagged video, into visual dashboards and tactical maps with full click-through to underlying video data. See the big picture with EVIDENCE.COM™.

EVIDENCE.COM is a full-featured digital evidence management system that allows the agency to securely store and track access to any type of digital evidence including AXON videos, digital photos, videos from still cameras, reports such as officer reports and witness statements, download records from all TASER ECD devices, etc.

2. How is video securely uploaded?

The Synapse™ Evidence Transfer Manager (ETM) is a docking station that simultaneously recharges the AXON Tactical Computer (ATC) and uploads all recorded to EVIDENCE.COM. Synapse™ ensuring that evidence handling is completely secured and untainted.

3. How does the ETM work?

Simple Plug & Go Workflow: Officers simply place the ATC in the cradle at the end of a shift and pick up a recharged system/unit for their next shift. The SYNAPSE ETM recharges and uploads all data automatically.

Groundbreaking Security of Evidence: Prior to data uplink, the AXON™ generates a digital security ID (using a double hash algorithm that exceeds IACP standards) that verifies the original file has never been altered. The file is then uploaded over a secure, 128-bit encrypted transport link.

Complete Chain of Custody: Captured evidence by the AXON system is untouched by human hands. It cannot be deleted, altered, and it isn't stored in a general use PC. The evidence video is automatically transferred through SYNAPSE ETM to multiple secure, redundant data centers.

Minimal IT Support Required: No custom software or installation required. Hardware is secure, yet plug-and-play over a standard high-bandwidth Internet connection.

128-Bit Encrypted Transport: Officers simply place the ATC in the cradle at the end of a shift and pick up a recharged system/unit for their next shift. The SYNAPSE ETM recharges and uploads all data automatically.

4. What is so groundbreaking about our security of evidence?

Our world class secure data centers are redundant, encrypted, and available 24/7/365. The system is infinitely scalable and does not require agencies to budget for capital expenditures as more servers are need if using a device that requires local storage and full IT support.

For more information please visit: www.EVIDENCE.com.